

LocalBriefs

from staff reports

Knapp to head Council of Governments board

Montgomery County Council President Michael J. Knapp will chair the board of directors of the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments for 2008.

The council member who represents the northern area of the county previously served as COG vice chairman and as chairman of the COG-based regional transportation planning board. He succeeds Vincent Gray of the District of Columbia City Council who was COG chairman in 2007.

This year's agenda will focus on uniting the metropolitan area, Knapp said last week.

"We must ensure that this area remains a vibrant, efficient and coordinated region, with all of our jurisdictions working together, not as 21 individual entities. What matters most in planning for our future is that we identify essential projects of all shapes and sizes, whether on the ground or still on paper, and focus on them now."

The organization's proposed priorities for the year include affordable housing, climate change, and illegal immigration and its impact on local governments.